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COUNTY OFFICIAL PAPER
SHALL WE PAVE?

A matter upon which the people of St. Helens are to be called upon for an expression of sentiment is the proposal to improve the street leading from the court house toward the depot. It is proposed to make this a permanent improvement, which naturally, will involve the expenditure of perhaps ten thousand dollars. Year after year there is an expenditure on the street and road leading to Houlton, which, in the aggregate, after a period of ten years, has exceeded the cost of a permanent improvement, by a large sum, and yet there is no road. This criticism is made only in the kindest spirit, as we appreciate the fact that in all that has been done it was with the idea of economy in the use of public funds. But the question of permanent improvement, at a necessary increase in cost, when viewed from a point of judicious expenditure, must be acknowledged to be the part of economy in the long run. The city council of St. Helens will submit this question to a vote of the people at the forthcoming election.

The suggestion is made that this proposed improvement be of wooden block construction, which would provide a beautiful and lasting thoroughfare. Wooden blocks as a paving material are acknowledged the world over as most satisfactory, especially since they afford a smooth, sanitary, non-slippery, silent and lasting surface. Just now would seem a very opportune time to undertake such a public improvement. Employment is scarce and materials are cheap, hence the improvement could be put in at a nominal cost, comparatively speaking. The city of Astoria has just decided to pave thirty thousand square yards with wooden blocks. In Seattle the surfacing of Second avenue with wooden blocks has just been completed. The conditions existing here are decidedly favorable for use of the wooden block. The security and permanence of the foundation are not to be found elsewhere. The improvement is needed, and now seems a most propitious time in which to undertake the work.

ENCOURAGE THE CANNERY.

The installation of a fruit and vegetable cannery in this vicinity should be of great encouragement to the farmer of small tracts of land, affording, as it will, a handy and sure market for the product at a price which will yield a profit and stable living. Perhaps no surer or more profitable crop could be raised than Loganberries. Conditions here are peculiarly favorable for the production of this variety of fruit.

Loganberries are the greatest utility fruit there is, of the small varieties, excepting the gooseberry. The Loganberry will stand shipping very well, its juice is valuable for both jelly and wine, and as a canning and evaporating fruit it has few equals and certainly no superiors. In addition to these superior qualities it is a prolific yielder, and will net their producer a handsome return per acre for his industry.

The canning company will pay for this fruit perhaps \$70 per ton, or three and one-half cents per pound. However, we would not encourage the culture of Loganberries to the exclusion of all other fruits. Such would be unwise in the event that some insect would attack it. We would counsel the farmer to engage in diversified horticulture as well as diversified farming. The crop of one fruit or vegetable might be a total, or even partial failure. In such an event results would be disastrous. It is the diversity of things that make for the prosperity and happiness of the world, generally, and no exception can be made of the product of the farm. The cannery will afford a market for any product of the farm in the form of fruits or vegetables, at a profitable price. The producing element of the community will be the losers in the event that sufficient material is not provided to enable the cannery to operate to full capacity throughout the producing season.

Down at Peoria two women, Miss Jennie Strong and Mrs. R. L. Hart, are conducting a sawmill. Sawmill operators now days need to be strong, in purse, faith and physique.

CONSOLIDATE THE SCHOOLS.

A matter of public interest which is just now being given a good deal of serious consideration by the county school superintendent and school officials throughout the county is the consolidation of school districts. There seems to be no tangible argument to present against such a course. There are instances in this county where a teacher is employed to instruct two or three pupils throughout the entire school year. Candid and logical reasoning will readily prove the fallacy of such a course. Where these conditions obtain there should be consolidation. The full value for dollars expended could be more nearly realized by such a course and better educational results ensue.

There is but one consolidated district in this county. This is at Scappoose, where, through this medium, most excellent results are being had. Through the medium of consolidation the youngsters are provided with convenient and sufficiently rapid and safe means of transportation to and from school, at a cost which is not at all burdensome.

In the districts where there are but a few pupils the cost of maintenance of the school is entirely out of proportion to the amount of benefit derived. In counties where the consolidation scheme has been more generally adopted eminently better educational features prevail. The burden of taxation always has been a troublesome question and is becoming a matter to be reckoned with seriously. The levy for school purposes in this county this year yields approximately \$75,000. This apportioned equally among the various districts would give about \$1500 to each one. The inequality of this can readily be seen. By consolidating two, or perhaps, more districts, far greater benefit could be derived from the amount paid out.

The standardization of schools, too, is being encouraged wherever there is such a desire on the part of the authorities. This course is also to be commended. The plan embodies a great many real meritorious features, and where adopted means the immediate betterment of conditions.

INVENTORY YOURSELF.

How often do you inventory?
We're not asking how often you count and appraise the things that are in your store or office.

But how frequently do you count and appraise the things that are within you?

How often do you sit down and look yourself squarely in the face? Inventory taking is healthful.

The ability of a man to weigh himself ought to be developed.

In every individual are qualities that are for his good and for the good of those with whom he comes in contact.

Likewise are there qualities that are to his detriment and to the detriment of those with whom he associates.

So it becomes important to clean house about ever so often; to discover the dross, eliminate it and charge it to profit and loss; to seek out the good and put it out at interest, that it may multiply.

Purge yourself of the malice and hate and selfishness and greed that corrode you. If you don't like a rotten apple, cast it out, it will contaminate those strong qualities of character you possess.

Be sorry for the mean things you did yesterday. Don't justify yourself. You ought to be big enough to see your own faults and to endeavor to correct them.

There's a mighty big lot of good in you. Drive the bad out.

While the world was again called upon to wait patiently for another fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy when the fighting hosts "shall beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks," it may be consoling to read that the stockholders of a certain western Washington brewery have decided upon definite plans to convert the entire plant, with some additions, into an establishment for the pasteurization and bottling of milk and for the making of a wholesale trade, butter, ice cream and cheese, when that town goes dry next January. In connection with the milk concern, the company proposes to conduct a large ice and cold storage house.

Instead of a governmental farms system the individual states could do vastly more good for themselves by providing for cheaper money. Cheap money is the fount that makes the brook of industry flow, and without it the homeless farmers can hardly hope for a home or the manufacturing industry hope to prosper. It is estimated that the farmers of the United States owe \$5,000,000,000, and so, cheap money will mean millions of dollars in savings to the farmers.

TRUE AMERICANISM.

By common consent and usage, though not technically correct, the word American is accepted as designating a citizen of the United States. In that sense it is not geographical, merely as indicating where a man lives, but defines his nationality and his citizenship. If a citizen's first thought is for the welfare of any other nation then he is not a good American.

Accepting that retention a naturalized citizen and all his descendants should put his adopted country first, foremost and at the head of every other. That does not mean forgetting the old home or losing interest in it, its people or its affairs. It does mean, however, that the interests of the old home should always and in every respect be secondary to those of the new allegiance which he has taken under solemn oath. The foreigners who have come here have been dealt with kindly and considerately and been given every opportunity, and many of them have improved it splendidly. Most of them appreciate the situation exactly as it is and many of them have taken up arms in defense of their adopted country.

The subject just now is the more timely because of the inevitable temptation, not only to harbor and express prejudice and preference with reference to the European war, but to do something to help one or the other, not strictly in accord with the letter and spirit of neutrality as defined in international law.

TWENTY YEARS AGO
THE MIST, March 8, 1895.

J. D. Wharton, purser on the Kellogg, left Monday for Wisconsin, to look after the business affairs of his father's estate, who died a short time ago. He expects to be absent several weeks.

Arthur George caught a sturgeon Tuesday that weighed 501 pounds. The sturgeon fishermen along the river are doing very well these days. The price received for the fish dressed is 4 cents a pound.

Senator McBride spent his forty-first birthday quietly at the old home in this city Wednesday. On this forty-first anniversary the senator is indeed in better health than for twelve years past. His many friends join us in wishing him many happy returns of the day.

Sheriff Doan and Deputy Blakesley are very busy these days collecting taxes and writing receipts therefor. So far the collections have been good, even better than during the corresponding period last year. Several heavy non-resident tax-payers have already liquidated their indebtedness to the county and the sheriff is kept busy writing letters and receiving taxes.

Articles of incorporation have been filed with the secretary of state incorporating the Columbia County Co-operative Association, the purpose of which is to develop a portion of Columbia county by building and operating manufacturing, etc.; principal place of business is restricted to section 14, township 5 north, range 4 west, Willamette Meridian, the same being near Pittsburg. The incorporators are M. Davidson, J. F. Kerr, R. Sessemann, G. L. Kerr, Thomas M. Kerr and Geo. Brous.

STATE INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

Placer mining in Baker county has resumed unusually early this season.

An electric railroad line is being promoted from Sutherlin to Cole's Valley.

Knight of Pythias at The Dalles will erect a four-story concrete lodge building.

Thirty-six lawyers are seeking appointment as public defender at Portland.

Gottschalk & Frey are installing a 30,000 capacity sawmill near Cottage Grove.

Road boosters at Portland are attempting to initiate a one million dollar bond issue.

Independence is installing two miles of hard surface road leading north from the city.

The state has ordered 600 bushels of seed to establish the flax industry at the state prison.

The legislature reduced the salary of the Polk county treasurer from \$1500 to \$750 per year.

Down at Central Point a meat packing company has been organized, with a capital of \$100,000.

Porter Brothers, of Portland, have been given a contract to im-

prove the Teal irrigation tracts, in Umatilla county. It is proposed to expend about \$800,000 on the project.

All conditions seem to be combining to insure good crops throughout Central Oregon this year.

The O. W. R. & N. will spend \$700,000 on new trackage and viaducts at their terminals at Portland.

The Coquille river channel from Coquille City to Bandon, will be dredged to a uniform depth of ten feet.

Black sand gathered from the ocean beach near Coos bay tests \$3 per ton in gold and 32 cents in platinum.

The state architects salary of \$4500 per year has been abolished and the officer placed on a fee income.

May 3rd to 8th will be the celebration days for the opening of the Cello canal to through traffic and the Oregon City locks to free traffic.

At Independence, on May 12, about 150 head of Jersey cattle, many of them registered, will be sold at auction. The sale is to be held under the auspices of the Polk County Jersey Breeders Association.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Safest place in war is on a submarine.

Mr. Frank P. Walsh is excoriating John D. Old stuff, Frank.

Half a loaf is better than no bread; also 13 ounces in the loaf.

Does golden silence really pay? What has become of John Lind and George B. Cortelyou?

Generals in Mexico are as plentiful as counts in Italy. Are there any intermediate grades?

Days are growing longer, legislatures are growing shorter, and the bluebird is on the way.

How much like one world's fair is every other; we observe Friday's opening was true to type.

And the wheeze on the young wife's bad cookery; isn't that entitled to an undisturbed tomb?

Toughly the war bears down on the old-fashioned miser. It is next to impossible to find a gold coin.

Not peace at any price but European disarmament at any price appears to be the purpose of the Allies.

Governments find one vocation in which they can give jobs to the idle men—that of shooting and being shot at.

Asking of Billy Sunday, if you please, sir: After a man's soul is saved, what's the next thing on the program?

War debts are already into the billions of dollars. After the war, revolution; and after revolution, repudiation.

Our sympathy goes out to the Belgians more strongly than ever. How dreadfully tired they must be of bread and soup.

Besides having river terminals New Orleans has about 100 feet of water perpendicularly, and that counts for so much.

There can be no equable heating of street cars so long as the attempt is made in some cars to warm a part of the street as well as the car.

Lids multiply; and what if there should be one some day muzzling the bleachers, yea, and the grandstand? But we know not what next from these suppressors—and oppressors.

Nob Hill, in San Francisco, is to be made a public playground. One sure way of preventing a reproduction of architectural monstrosities upon it.

Owner of the Dacia, a Mr. Breitung, was born in Michigan, and his father represented that state in Congress for several years, so don't begin to think that the Dacia is a German-owned vessel.

When one of these European nations indites a diplomatic "note" to us it is as long as your leg and you have to peruse an editorial to find out what it really said. Editorials are great labor saving institutions.

The building commissioner, who has his opinion of revolving storm doors, may be interested in knowing that a man became inextricably caught in one at Paterson, N. J. The fact that the fire department was called may indicate, as a journalist says, the kind of language he employed to express his feelings.

BE NEUTRAL.
If a fellow steals your purse,
Be neutral.
Knocks you down or something worse,
Be neutral.
Should a burglar impolite
Empty out your house at night,
Do not bear him any spite—
Be neutral.
Should a bully roam the land,
Be neutral.
Be quite sure you understand
Be neutral.
Should he strike you with an axe
Judge not harshly such attacks,
Wait until you get the facts—
Be neutral.
Never stoop to taking sides,
Be neutral.
Good 'neath evil often hides.
If a person, seeming rude,
Mixes poison with your food,
He may do it for your good—
Be neutral.
When you're looking on a fight,
Be neutral.
Do not choose the wrong or right
Be neutral.
View it with a vacant stare,
Let your mind be blank and bare;
Thus you will be strictly fair—
And neutral.

SHERMAN'S VERSION OF WAR.
Often Misquoted Statements of the Warrior Are Given Correct.

Vernonia, Ore., March 6, 1915.
To the Editor:—To settle a much mooted question, will you please inform the public just what the exact words of General Sherman were when he gave his version of war. I will appreciate any light on the subject.

What General Sherman said about war was not confined to what is now the most frequently quoted epigram in the English language, and by the way, it is just as expressive in any other. We think his exact expression upon that occasion was couched in the following words:

"I confess without shame that I am tired and sick of war. It's glory is all moonshine. Even success the most brilliant is over dead and mangled bodies, the anguish and lamentation of distant families appealing to me for missing sons, husbands and fathers. It is only those who have not heard a shot nor heard the shrieks and groans of the wounded and lacerated, who are crying aloud for more blood, more vengeance, more desolation. War is hell!"

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